

## THE ARGUS.

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Monday, December 20, 1915.

## Rock Island—From River to River.

There are indications that Austria-Hungary would delight in a protracted gage.

Congratulations and every good wish to President and Mrs. Woodrow Wilson. All the world loves a lover.

When the film censor of the republican national convention platform passes on the reel he will of course cut the 1912 reference to a flash.

With \$10,000,000 worth of American horses going to Europe every month, the Smithsonian institute had better grab two or three while they can and stuff them, that our children may continue to know what a horse looks like.

The Michigan democracy has gone through the formality of placing the name of Woodrow Wilson on the primary ballot. This is the beginning of a long series of ratifications.

According to Karl Helfferich, secretary of the German imperial treasury, the war is costing the nation of Europe \$50,000,000 a day. View of the fact nobody knows what the struggle is about there would seem to be urgent work for the commissioners of insanity.

A man named Smith died in Georgia, leaving a fortune of \$6,000,000. His administrator is seeking his heirs. Six millions divided among the Smith family of the United States would not assure a big per capita. However, if your name is Smith it only costs two cents to inquire.

## CITIZEN RIFLE CLUBS.

At the present time there is an unprecedented revival throughout the country in rifle shooting, brought about by the enactment of a law by congress last year authorizing the free issue of rifles and ammunition to rifle clubs organized by civilians. Under this act 10 citizens in any locality can organize themselves into a government rifle club and adopt by-laws approved by the secretary of war. The club then affiliates with the National Rifle association of America and is issued by the war department one new Krag rifle for every five members of the club and 120 rounds of ammunition to each member annually for use on the rifle range. The work of organizing the clubs, looking after them, issuing decorations and medals, and classifying their work, was put in the hands of the National Rifle association of America by the war department and this organization, which for 42 years has been working to make rifle shooting a popular sport in this country, has suddenly sprung into prominence through its cooperation with the government by the organization of these clubs. Within the last year the association reports that it has completed the organization of over 400 clubs, not only in the United States proper but in Porto Rico, canal zone, Alaska and Hawaii. Over a million and a half rounds of ammunition has been issued to these clubs during the year and about 3,000 rifles. The possibilities of this movement are unlimited and depend only upon the securing of range facilities where such clubs can carry on their work. With this object in view congress will be asked at this session to provide for a commission to investigate the entire subject of range construction from a national defense standpoint, survey the entire country and recommend a permanent national policy of range construction and localities where such ranges should be constructed. In addition the National Rifle association will ask for a national charter and an annual appropriation of \$25,000 from congress to assist it in carrying on the work as it should be done. Although the association has a perfect organization with secretaries and branches in every state there is no way in which it can reimburse these secretaries for their traveling expenses and time, and it is hardly to be expected that these men, who are active and prominent in business, should devote their time and money to this work without reimbursement.

The national board for promotion of rifle practice has also been very badly handicapped for the lack of funds to carry out its plans for the broadening of the rifle movement in a proper national manner and to meet this the secretary of war will ask that the amount of money now available for the board, which is only \$10,000, be increased to \$50,000 and that this money be made available for the purchase of target supplies for issue to rifle clubs and to pay markers on state ranges where targets are put at the disposal of civilian clubs as under the present regulations, the state military department cannot pay the marker's salary except only when working for the national guardsmen. So, taking everything into consideration, the future for rifle shooting in this country looks very bright and if congress gives the help and additional encouragement to the clubs it will only be a very short while before we will have half a million qualified military marksmen in this country, which will be a very valuable asset in any scheme of preparing volunteers in this country for military service.

## TRYING TO FIND AN ISSUE.

The national house of representatives has passed the joint resolution providing for the extension of the emergency revenue tax until Dec. 31, 1916. It is expected the senate will take similar action.

The fight made upon the proposition in which the republicans were solidly against it indicates the purpose of administration opponents is to make all possible capital out of the United States treasury situation. They think they see in the condition resultant from the European war an opportunity to go before the country on a plea of democratic failure.

It is their hope that the public may be lulled into the belief that were the republican party in power and the Payne-Aldrich tariff law in effect, that whether there were imports or not that measure would prove adequate as a producer of revenue. The absurdity of the idea is glaring. It is akin to the allegation that good crops have been due to republican administrations although the good crop idea has not been featured by the G. O. P. the past two years. In fact, they are agreed that meteorological conditions may be partially responsible.

With tariff duty returns reduced to practically nothing by reason of European manufacturers having turned their attention to war supplies, what would have been the situation were the large reliance for government support placed upon this source under the high protective tariff and without the income tax?

But the republicans are planning to make lack of revenue through regular channels the issue. How far will they succeed with it?

## INCOMES IN ILLINOIS.

Who are the 14 people in Illinois who pay taxes on annual incomes of half a million or better? The annual report of the federal commissioner of internal revenue, made public in Washington, shows that number of Illinoisians who bear the brunt of at least \$50,000 from men, net, between New Year's and New Year's.

For the dual purpose of abiding by the income tax law and giving the great American public something interesting to guess about Uncle Sam refuses to divulge the names of its money-blessed sons and daughters. Here's the best the government will do about Illinois incomes:

Amount.	Number paying tax.
\$3,000 to \$4,000	5,113
\$4,000 to \$5,000	6,543
\$5,000 to \$10,000	12,162
\$10,000 to \$15,000	2,975
\$15,000 to \$20,000	1,359
\$20,000 to \$25,000	738
\$25,000 to \$30,000	496
\$30,000 to \$40,000	512
\$40,000 to \$50,000	258
\$50,000 to \$75,000	305
\$75,000 to \$100,000	131
\$100,000 to \$150,000	38
\$150,000 to \$200,000	35
\$200,000 to \$250,000	17
\$250,000 to \$300,000	12
\$300,000 to \$400,000	15
\$400,000 to \$500,000	7
\$500,000 and over	14

And then you guess—and envy if your philosophy is not absolutely tombproof.

The large majority of men and women with between \$5,000 and \$10,000 annual incomes is considered remarkable, this class being 50 per cent greater than the next largest, the \$3,000-\$4,000 people, and twice as great as the third largest, those with \$4,000-\$5,000 annually. Illinois paid a total of \$2,670,670 individual income taxes last year and took fourth rank among the states in this regard. The total personal income tax for the nation was \$41,045,162.

## CARRANZA'S NEW FOE.

In fighting the typhus fever now raging in the City of Mexico, General Carranza is meeting a foe over which all will wish him victory. If he can stamp out that scourge it will be a victory of international importance and he might well call to his aid medical science from the United States. Not until the United States had taken control of affairs in Cuba was the yellow fever so mastered that it has lost most of its former terrors. American physicians in Serbia have greatly lessened the ravages of typhus in that country and they can do as much no doubt for Mexico, where the disease has been epidemic and peculiarly fatal. Mexico, and particularly the Mexican capital, needs a General Gorgas to supervise a cleaning up. Even a constitutional government without sanitation cannot long survive.

## Dumas, Father and Son.

A story is told about the two Dumas, father and son, which illustrates the pleasant relations between the two. The son had written his first successful novel, and the father wrote him a letter of congratulations, which he began in the formal manner of "Dear Sir." This letter throughout read as though addressed to a total stranger and merely thanked the author for the pleasure the book had given him. Dumas dies answered in this manner:

Sir—I thank you most heartily for your kind letter. Praise from you is especially appreciated by me, as I have always heard of you as the most enthusiastic admirer of my father, who also makes some pretension of being a novelist.

## Selected by Tavenner



CLYDE H. TAVENNER

To the Readers of The Argus:

The Argus has generously agreed to permit me to make a regular contribution under this head, to use the space as if it were my own. I am left free to make my selection from where I will, whether it is timely or untimely; to search the highways and the byways for what may impress me as of interest and value to the people.

I assure my readers I shall try to make the most of the opportunity. To do so I must forget that party lines exist, and I will, just as I wish it might be practical for them not to exist and that the principal issue on election day might be, not whether a candidate belongs to this or that political party, but whether he is willing to serve the masses of the people or the few who exploit them.

In other words, my idea is to submit information or a thought that I would give to the world if I myself edited a newspaper, the only mission of which was to serve mankind; to do this and nothing more.

When I personally write the contribution, I will sign it, and when I present the thought and work of others I will so indicate.

## HOW JOSEPH FELT ANSWERED THE NAVY LEAGUE.

Men of real or imaginary influence are receiving from the Navy League petitions to be signed urging congress to support a \$500,000,000 bond issue for battleships, etc. In this petition the league gives "67 reasons."

On returning his petition unsigned, Joseph Felt wrote as follows:

"None of your 67 reasons shows murder to be justifiable. None of them shows that it is right for a young man to bind himself to shoot his own father at the command of a superior officer. None of them justifies the wicked folly that leads citizens of different countries to kill each other merely because the rulers were too incompetent or too unwilling to settle a dispute amicably.

"Your petition is inconsistent. It contains no demand that in case of war all the diplomats whose blundering or worse has failed to avert trouble, be placed on the firing line, together with all congressmen and senators who voted to declare war, all editors, politicians, preachers and other molders of public opinion who helped to inflame the public, and all financial magnates who stood back of it all, pulling the strings in expectation of securing new opportunities for plunder. Of course I know that if such a provision were made there would be an end of all demand for a navy, every congressman would oppose an appropriation, and our state department would treat even the smallest and weakest of foreign nations with justice and courtesy.

"In spite of the large number of reasons you give, you omit all mention of the ones but for which no navy would be wanted. Are you ashamed of them? You don't say that American monopolists have secured concessions from corrupt governments of weaker countries to rob the people thereof and want protection from possible revolutionary outbreaks which their oppression may cause. You don't say that increased naval expenses will give protected monopolists an excuse to demand retention of oppressive tariff taxes. You don't say that the steel trust, Charles M. Schwab, and others interested in contracts for battleships, guns and armor plate need the money.

"You do say that the navy now costs \$120,000,000 a year. You don't say that that means a tax of \$7.50 a year on every family and that you want to increase it. You don't say that most of these families don't get a dollar's worth of benefit out of it, but that it will be the young men of such families who must do the fighting and be maimed or killed.

"I have little hope that it will do any good to tell you that demanding a navy is inconsistent with the Golden Rule. You know that already; but you don't care. You don't say that openly because it is not fashionable and would not be expedient. It would embarrass the preachers and church members who support your demands. Still it won't hurt to let you know how this murderous business looks to a Golden Rule advocate and I therefore quote from Henry George:

"The dangers to the republic come not from without but from within. What menaces her safety is no armada launched from foreign shores, but the gathering cloud of trusts on her own highways. That Krupp is casting monstrous cannon and that in Cherbourg and Woolwich projectiles of unbelieved destructiveness are being stored, need not alarm her, but there is a black omen in the fact that Pennsylvania miners are working for 65 cents a day. No triumphant invaders can tread our soil until the blight of 'great estates' has brought 'failure of the crop of men'; if there be danger that our cities blaze, it is from torches lit in faction fight, not from foreign shells.

"Against such dangers forts will not guard us, ironclads protect us, or standing armies prove of any avail. They are not to be avoided by the aping of European protectionism; they come from failure to be true to that spirit of liberty which was invoked at the formation of the republic. They are only to be avoided by conforming our institutions to the principle of freedom.

"For it is true, as was declared by the first national assembly of France, that 'ignorance, neglect or contempt of human rights are the sole cause of public misfortune and corruption of government.'

"Here is the conclusion of the whole matter. That we should do unto others as we would have them do unto us, that we should respect the rights of others as scrupulously as we would have our own rights respected; it is not a mere counsel of perfection to individuals, but it is the law to which we must conform social institutions and national policy if we would secure the blessings of abundance and peace."

Prospects Doubtful. Good and Evil. Nothing is truly good to a man which does not make him just, temperate, courageous and free, and nothing can be evil to a man which does not give him the contrary disposition.—Marcus Aurelius.

Foreign Bodies in the Eye.

In factories where workmen frequently get splinters, emery or other foreign bodies in the eye, there is generally a self-made expert who may even have some "antiseptic" knowledge, and who generally does a lot of harm in his endeavors to dig out foreign bodies. Workmen thus injured should hold the employer fully responsible and submit to no amateur interference.

Foreign bodies under the lids may be removed by picking them off with a little clean cotton wound upon a toothpick, but never should an effort be made to dig out a foreign body which seems to be imbedded on the cornea—over the colored part of the eyeball.

If the eye becomes irritated from a foreign body it may be freely bathed by allowing warm normal salt solution (tablespoonful to the pint of boiled water) to turn over the eyeball, pouring it on gently with a spoon or a clean medicine dropper. This will wash out loose specks.

Do not rub the eye, and do not touch it with unwashed fingers. Keep everything that is not perfectly clean away from the eye. Above all do not allow any one to moisten a cloth with saliva for removing a foreign body, or worse yet to use the tongue for that purpose, as immigrants are frequently seen to do.

The chief danger from a foreign body in the eye is injury and ulceration of the cornea. This may be produced by cinders, particles of steel or emery or stone, but should not happen if the eye is properly treated from the beginning. A corneal ulcer may be no larger than the head of a pin, a minute denuded or raw spot scarcely visible except by direct illumination of the eyeball. Yet even this minute ulcer will be long in healing, owing to the absence of circulation in the corneal coat of the eye, and it may permit infection to enter and cause very serious damage.

After a foreign body is removed there is usually a feeling that it is still there. As a rule, it is better to apply a warm, moist, normal salt solution compress over the eye and bandage it in place. This will soon give relief from the pain.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Chilblains.

What will prevent chilblains, and what is their cure?

Answer—Avoid garters round the leg. Wear rubber heels and sewed soles (thick) and cork insoles. Put on a fresh pair of woolen stockings every morning. If possible, wear two pairs of shoes alternately. For mild chilblains, which itches and burns and smart, bathe the feet with water containing a pinch of alum, dry, powder with talcum, or talcum and boric acid powder (ten to one). If blisters rise, empty them by a clean needle prick and gently pressing with a clean towel. Dry, powder over with talcum and boric acid.

Hot Air.

A sanitary engineer advises me that the following are the merits of steam heating over hot air furnaces: Steam heat (1) does not disseminate disease germs; (2) spreads no soot, gases, dirt or smoke; (3) creates no parched or dead air in the room (4) distributes heat evenly. Do you still advocate hot air furnaces?

Answer—All of the stated facts are true of hot air furnace heating, excepting for very large buildings. Warm air on the move is purer than warm air standing still.

## CHORDS AND DISCORDS

"Of course 'The Birth of a Nation' is a stupendous pictorial production," writes Hector, "but in view of the claims as to its accuracy, historically and otherwise, I could not suppress a titter as I saw one southern white clean out, single-handed, a score of negroes whom he encountered in a gin store. I followed this unequal fight very closely and the only time the white fell was when he received a bullet from behind. Too, Miss Lillian Gish is sweet and pretty, but she certainly had a bum steer in dressing the part of a nurse. In one scene where she was supposed to be nursing victims of the battlefields she changed costumes twice, but the other women similarly employed appeared to have had all they could do in looking after their charges. While they wore the regulation uniform the star fluttered about in silks and satins. Of course a star is supposed to be better dressed than her subordinates, but a nurse is a nurse."

BOSTON minister has been sued for \$25,000 for alleged breach of promise to marry. The first thought that will come to the mind of his brother laborers in the Lord's vineyard is where did he get it?

ANOTHER Illinois woman has celebrated her 100th anniversary. Yet every day we hear of people going to the far west or the far south in the hope of gaining a longer lease on life.

"AS if organized and unorganized baseball hadn't had enough troublesome elements to contend against from within," writes Ignatz, "I observe that one of the Chicago packers is to take a stick in the proposed amalgamation. It strikes me that he will put the whole business on the hog."

## Do Dreams Come True?

J. M. C.: One night last week I had a dream that I would like to enter in your contest. My son had been elected governor of the state and mother and I were making preparations to go to the capital to attend his inauguration. He had won financial success also, and all seemed bright for the entire family. When I came to my baby boy's toe was in my face. He was the one I had dreamed had become governor of the state. The only consolation is that he may some day become famous, but my one hope is that it will not be in a political way.

L. E. F.

COMPLAINANT in a Chicago divorce action names six women as having been too friendly with her husband at the same time. This gentleman simply has been operating under the wrong flag.

THE national colors were displayed throughout the city of Milwaukee Saturday in honor of the president's wedding. Bad news for the capitals of the entente.

## MOTHER GOOSE XMAS RHYME.

O Henry's gone Across the sea To settle the war With Germany.

But Henry, Henry, What a joke If a submarine Should hit your boat.

You may be wrong Or you may be right In trying your best To settle this fight.

But, be a little careful, All you who went, And don't criticize Our president.

Take care of your crew And be a little more quiet Or first thing you know That boat will see a riot.

And wouldn't that be A nice thing to tell Instead of making peace You all raised—a beard FATHER GANDER.

## Firm of Crooks.

Floyd M. Crook, the jeweler, was suddenly called to his former home at Maple Rapids last week. He at once responded and found that his good wife had presented him with the best pair of boys in the land. Congratulations are in order, and Mr. Crook is certainly receiving his share. The firm name will soon read "The Three Crooks."—Howard City Record.

## People Elect Wrong Man.

Our first consignment of new congressional garden seed has arrived. The package bears the signature of Jeff McLemore, one of the congressmen from the state at large. We have examined the seeds and find all of them to be of the 1916 model, with the latest self-sprouting attachments, and in the right soil and season they would doubtless come to a full and beautiful fruition. But—they are watermelon and turnip seeds. Here, my countrymen, are some of the evils of electing incompetent congressmen. Any man competent to sit in our national law-making body knows that it's too late to plant turnips and that watermelons grown on black land are n. g. Yet here is Mr. McLemore drawing \$7,500 a year and mileage for serving the people in congress, with no knowledge of when or where to plant government seeds. The people had an opportunity to select as their congressman at large a man who knows all about garden seeds—one who perhaps would have sent his constituents seeds that would have yielded abundantly without work—but they selected in his stead a crusty bachelor, who knows as little about garden seeds as he knows about babies.—Honey Grove (Texas) Signal.

J. M. C.

## The Daily Story

The Best That Could Be Done—By F. A. Mitchell.

Margaret Brierley was brought up by a couple of maiden aunts, sisters, who were well off and intended that after their death Margaret should have their belongings. These were in part a comfortable house and grounds in the village, in which they lived. Margaret proved an apt scholar and was graduated with honor. Since life with her aunts was very dull she yearned for something livelier. After a year of "sitting around holding her hands," as she expressed it, she determined to go to the city to teach.

Her aunts combated her resolution. They reminded her that they had cared for her since she was an infant, educated her and given her everything she wanted. All in vain. One morning when Aunt Sarah went into her room to awaken her the bird had flown.

Three years passed, during which there was no communication between the aunts and the niece. Margaret was getting on well as a teacher when she fell ill. Having no means to provide a substitute for her school duties, she was dropped from the salary roll. Then the poor girl began to regret that she had yielded to the impulse to be independent. Nothing remained for her but to go back to her aunts and ask their forgiveness and help.

Taking advantage of a slight rally, she spent her last funds for a railway ticket to her former home. She arrived at the house as darkness was falling. How comfortable everything looked! There were the dainty white house, the porch and lattice covered with vines, the flower garden to one side, the kitchen garden in the rear, the whole inclosed by the low picket fence. She went as fast as her condition would permit up the walk, opened the door and entered. All was still.

"Aunt Elizabeth!" she called, with no reply.

"Aunt Sarah!" Still no answer. She went through the house, but found no one. Thinking that her aunts had gone out, she took off her wraps and sat down in the living room before the open fireplace, in which were live coals.

Presently she heard the front door open and shut. She arose, intending to greet her aunts. Instead a young man entered. Seeing her, he paused. "Where are my aunts, Misses Elizabeth and Sarah Stacey?"

"Are you Margaret Brierley?" "I am."

"Miss Elizabeth died a few months ago, and Miss Sarah followed her in two weeks."

Margaret sank back in her chair and covered her face with her hands. It was some time before she spoke again; then she said:

"Where are you going?" asked Blackmore.

"I don't know. I can't stay here."

"He went to her and gently forced her back in her chair. 'The good ladies,' he said, 'told me that if you fainted in your work they would be glad if you and I could occupy their old home and enjoy their income together.'

Margaret sat silent for awhile, then looking up at him, said:

"As for me, I can do nothing else. It remains for you to decide whether or no you care to accord with the wish expressed."

Without reply he left her and went to the telephone booth. She heard him ask: "Is the Rev. Mr. Stark at home?" Tell him to come to the Stacey place immediately." Then, returning to her, he said: "You can't leave here in your present condition. If I permitted you to do so your aunts would turn in their graves. You can't stay here alone, and I can't stay with you without scandal. You'll have to take my unworthy self. It's hard luck for you, but it can't be helped."

She put out her hand to him, and he bent down and kissed her.

The parson came, and all was well.

## Sidelights on the European War

Peking.—(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)—Prince Ching, who has suddenly come out of long retirement to participate in the negotiations concerning the rights the deposed Manchurian dynasty is to enjoy under the prospective reestablishment of the monarchy, was for many years one of the most important figures in Chinese politics.

He has been living quietly at Tientsin and was summoned to Peking to look after the interests of the deposed boy-emperor who is living as a prisoner in the Forbidden City at Peking. Prince Ching was born in 1839, and when 13 years of age was adopted by a grandson of Emperor Chien Lung, and was continually advanced until 1908 when, upon the death of Emperor Kuang Hsu, he was admitted to the rank of hereditary prince of the first order. Many of his sons and daughters have married into the Chinese royal family.

In Manchu circles, therefore, Prince Ching is a person of very great consequence on the ground of family ties alone. In addition he is exceedingly wealthy and for many years was the most powerful minister in Peking. In April 1884, he became president of the Tsungli Yamen, the old board of foreign affairs, and in that capacity his name is associated with many of the outstanding events of China's recent history.

There was, in fact, a period of many years when practically nothing could be done without Prince Ching's cognizance and help, when his front door was a market place at which appointments, promotions and concessions were bought and sold, when his favor was the passport that opened the most intimate and closely guarded portals, when his frown meant ruin to the most elaborate schemes. And now, after a period of retirement and comparative unimportance, he reemerges again to "put through" what may well prove to be the last big deal of his life.

The terms on which the Manchus abdicated, the "favorable treatment" agreement that Prince Ching is going to revise, included a stipulation that after abdication the emperor should be allowed to retain title and should receive from the republic the respect due to a foreign sovereign. Article two arranged that the throne should revert from the republic an annuity of 4,000,000 (\$5,600,000 Mexican) until the establishment of a new currency, when the sum should be \$4,000,000 (Mexican). By article three the emperor was to be allowed to reside temporarily in the imperial palace, but was later to remove to the Eho park, retaining his bodyguard at the same strength as hitherto. Other articles allowed him to continue to perform the religious ritual connected with the imperial ancestral temples and maus-

olea, which were to be protected by guards provided by the republic; to retain his retinue as hitherto, appointing, however, no more eunuchs; to enjoy possession of his private property under the republic's property and to retain the imperial guard, which, however, were to be placed under the control of the department of war.

The imperial clansmen were to retain their titles and private property, enjoy public and private rights on a footing of equality with all other citizens and be exempt from military service, similar terms being agreed to as regards Manchus, Mongols, Mohammedans and Tibetans. Impoverished princes and dukes were to be provided with means of livelihood, while provision was also to be made for the eight banners, or professional ancient soldiers, who were henceforth to be free in respect to trade and residence. The term "favorable" was amply justified considering all the circumstances of the moment at which the agreement was drawn up.

To Prince Ching, however, the duty of negotiation for its revision will be a task rich in opportunities, especially as the imperial seal appears to be a sine qua non of a revival of monarchy. In the eyes of Europeans, the importance attached to the seal appears amusingly exaggerated; to the Chinese, on the other hand, formalism is everything and it is of the essence of the present situation that the edicts in which the Manchus announced their abdication delegated to Yuan Shi-kai authority to "organize with full powers a provision republican government." Theoretically, therefore, as long as the Manchus retain the seal they retain the source and symbol of the authority which they allowed Yuan Shi-kai to use.

## Grit.

Grit is the grain of character. It may generally be described as heroism materialized—spirit and will thrust into the heart, brain and backbone, as to form part of the physical substance of the man.—Whipple.

## Daily History Class—Dec. 20.

1858—Final suppression of the Indian mutiny. The mutiny of native troops or sepoy revolt began in 1857. One method of suppression was to blow captive sepoy from the mouths of cannon. The last great battle was fought at Gwalior in June, 1858.

1908—Major Orlando Jay Smith, Federal veteran of the civil war, editor and philosophical writer, founder of the American Press Association, died; born June 14, 1842.

1914—Prince Hussein Kemal was appointed successor to the pro-Turkish khedive of Egypt by the British government.